

REMARKS

The Office Action dated January 11, 2008, asserts that the application contains claims directed to more than one species of the generic invention. The species are as follows:

The disorder suffered by the patient (i.e., any single disorder of claims 2-4).

In response, Applicants elect the disorder recited in claim 2, schizophrenia. As noted by the Examiner, claims 1, 5 and 6 are deemed generic.

This election is made with traverse. Applicants respectfully dispute the assertion by the Office Action that the claims lack unity of invention.

Applicants assert that each of the disorders recited in the claims is linked by a common inventive concept. Specifically, the invention, as it relates to each of the 6 claims pending, is based on the discovery that Taq1A allelic status is associated with response to medications that act at the D2 dopamine receptor (DRD2) as well as response to selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs). This is discussed in the specification, e.g., at page 4, lines 8-14. All of the claims relate to providing an advance in the treatment of patients with psychiatric disorders such as psychosis and depression, by providing a means to identify those patients likely to respond favorably to different types of antidepressant and antipsychotic medications.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the election of species requirement. It is also submitted that this application is now in good order for allowance and such allowance is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner believe minor matters still remain that can be resolved in a telephone interview, the Examiner is urged to call Applicants' undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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